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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
WESTERN DIVISION	
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Nisan Harrill, Case No.:	
18 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR DAMA	AGES
20 vs. FOR VIOLATIONS OF:	
1. THE FAIR DEBT COI	
Optio Solutions, LLC d/b/a Qualia Collection Services, PRACTICES ACT; AND 2. THE ROSENTHAL FA	
COLLECTION PRACTI	
Defendant.  JURY TRIAL DEMANDE	ED
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Plaintiff, Nisan Harrill (hereafter "Plaintiff"), by undersigned counsel, brings the following complaint against Optio Solutions, LLC d/b/a Qualia Collection Services (hereafter "Defendant") and alleges as follows:

### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* ("FDCPA"), and violations of the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, *et seq.* ("Rosenthal Act").
- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), Cal. Civ. Code 1788.30(f), 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), where the acts and transactions giving rise to Plaintiff's action occurred in this district and/or where Defendant transacts business in this district.

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff is an adult individual residing in San Clarita, California, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).
- 5. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3), and is a "debtor" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(h).
- 6. Defendant is a business entity located in Petaluma, California, and is a "person" as the term is defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).

- 7. Defendant uses instrumentalities of interstate commerce or the mails in a business the principle purpose of which is the collection of debts and/or regularly collects or attempts to collect debts owed or asserted to be owed to another, and is a "debt collector" as defined by 15 U.S.C.§ 1692a(6).
- 8. Defendant, in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of itself or others, engages in the collection of consumer debts, and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).

#### **ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS**

- 9. Plaintiff is a natural person allegedly obligated to pay a debt asserted to be owed to a creditor other than Defendant.
- 10. Plaintiff's alleged obligation arises from a transaction in which property, services or money was acquired on credit primarily for personal, family or household purposes, is a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5), and is a "consumer debt" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(f).
- 11. At all times mentioned herein where Defendant communicated with any person via telephone, such communication was done via Defendant's agent, representative or employee.
- 12. On or about August 12, 2016, Defendant called Plaintiff's place of employment in an attempt to collect a debt.

- 13. During a live conversation, Plaintiff requested that Defendant cease all further calls to her place of employment.
- 14. Despite Plaintiff's unequivocal request and knowing that the call was inconvenient, Defendant called Plaintiff's place of employment again on or about August 15, 2016.
- 15. During the call, Plaintiff again requested that Defendant cease calling her at her place of employment.
  - 16. Defendant replied, "No".
- 17. Defendant's actions caused Plaintiff to suffer a significant amount of stress, anxiety and frustration.

### **COUNT I**

# VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 18. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 19. The FDCPA was passed in order to protect consumers from the use of abusive, deceptive and unfair debt collection practices and in order to eliminate such practices.
- 20. Defendant attempted to collect a debt from Plaintiff and engaged in "communications" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

- 21. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff at a time or place known to be inconvenient to the Plaintiff, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(1).
- 22. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff at his place of employment knowing that the employer prohibits Plaintiff from receiving such communication, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(3).
- 23. Defendant engaged in conduct, the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse Plaintiff, in connection with the collection of a debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d.
- 24. Defendant caused Plaintiff's phone to ring or engaged Plaintiff in telephone conversations repeatedly or continuously, with the intent to annoy, abuse and harass Plaintiff, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5).
- 25. The foregoing acts and/or omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
- 26. Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

## **COUNT II**

# VIOLATIONS OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, et seq.

27. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.

- 28. The Rosenthal Act was passed to prohibit debt collectors from engaging in unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the collection of consumer debts.
- 29. Defendant caused Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously to annoy Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d).
- 30. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff with such frequency as to be unreasonable, constituting harassment, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(e).
- 31. Defendant did not comply with the provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17.
- 32. Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant for:

- A. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- B. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A);
- C. Actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a);
- D. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for knowingly and willfully committing violations pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b);
- E. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§ 1692k(a)(3) and Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(c);
- F. Punitive damages; and

G. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper. TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS DATED: January 30, 2017 TRINETTE G. KENT By: /s/ Trinette G. Kent Trinette G. Kent, Esq. Lemberg Law, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff, Nisan Harrill